

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

ED BY JL

DATE 4/2/57

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Tuesday, December 17, 1957

Most of the morning was spent in conferring with Messrs. Trimble, Schwartz, Pleasants, Flinn, and Nelson, and Rebecca Wellington, on Berlin access. Finally, I decided to send the following telegrams to the Department:

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I went to pay a return call on the Jordanian Minister, Juraikat.

We had a long talk about horses. He thinks the Jordanian Arab superior to any other of that type. He claims an Arab horse can outrun all other horses for short distances. He told me the King of Saudi Arabia buys a certain number of Jordanian horses every year. If I would come to Jordania, he says he would give me one of the best of the local breed. He expressed gratitude to the American Government for the assistance being given to his country - without it, he thinks there would have been a collapse.

Bill Bell and I went over the tape recording of my interview last week with Mr. Bogie of the Armed Forces Network. It turned out to run about 27 minutes, and has to be cut down to 15.

The news out of Paris today is ~~very~~ interesting, especially as revealing on the part of representatives of some Governments a desire to pursue conversations with the Russians through normal diplomatic channels. I have long thought that the neglect, amounting almost to disuse, of this type of approach, has been a great mistake. Our own difficulty has been a reluctance to enter into bilateral negotiations with the Soviets because of the suspicions this action would arouse amongst our NATO partners. However, a distinction should be drawn

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I had the following for dinner tonight: Minister for All-German Affairs Ernst Lemmer, Minister Hermann Lindrath (Economic Properties), State Secretary Franz Thedieck, and Dr. Rolf Thiessen of the Ministry for Federal Economic Properties; Henry Tasca, Walter Radius, C. Gray Bream and David Thomson.

We had a good many subjects we wished to discuss with the Germans, but never got beyond topic (1) until after midnight.

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We had some good wine, the best of which I thought was Pommard 1929.

We had hoped in the course of the evening to take up the following questions with the German officials:

(1) How far is the Soviet Zone regime likely to go in imposing restrictions on the movement of people and goods to and from the Zone and to and from East Berlin? What measures can the German Government take to counteract such restrictions?

(2) To what lengths and with what measures is the Soviet Zone regime likely to act against the churches? In such circumstances what help can be given them?

(3) What is the program of the Ministry for All German Affairs during the coming year?

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